

PHARMACY BOARD[657]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 272C.2, the Board of Pharmacy hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 2, “Pharmacist Licenses,” Iowa Administrative Code.

The amendments were approved at the November 17, 2009, regular meeting of the Board of Pharmacy.

The proposed amendments define continuing education for the practice of pharmacy, correct the name of the pharmacy education accreditation council, identify additional programs that qualify for the drug therapy course requirement in subrule 2.12(4), clarify the information required on the program attendance certificate and on reports to the Board, clarify the process for exemption from continuing education requirements in subrule 2.12(1), and identify types of non-ACPE provider programs that will be accepted for no more than 50 percent of the total continuing education credits required during a renewal period.

Requests for waiver or variance of the discretionary provisions of these rules will be considered pursuant to 657—Chapter 34.

Any interested person may present written comments, data, views, and arguments on the proposed amendments not later than 4:30 p.m. on January 19, 2010. Such written materials may be sent to Terry Witkowski, Executive Officer, Board of Pharmacy, 400 S.W. Eighth Street, Suite E, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-4688; or by E-mail to terry.witkowski@iowa.gov.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 272C.2.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend rule **657—2.12(272C)**, introductory paragraph, as follows:

657—2.12(272C) Continuing education requirements. Pharmacists shall complete continuing education for license renewal pursuant to the requirements of this rule. For purposes of this rule, “continuing education” means a structured educational activity that is applicable to the practice of pharmacy, that promotes problem solving and critical thinking, and that is designed or intended to support the continuing development of pharmacists to maintain and enhance their competence.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 2.12(1) as follows:

2.12(1) Continuing education program attendance. Continuing education programs that carry the seal of an ~~American Council on Pharmaceutical Education~~ Accreditation Council on Pharmacy Education (ACPE)-approved provider will automatically qualify for continuing education credit. Program attendance is mandated in order to receive credit unless the program is a correspondence course that ACPE approved.

a. Non-ACPE provider program. ~~A pharmacist requesting individual credit for completing a non-ACPE provider program shall submit a request for approval of the program to the board office no later than the date the program commences. The request shall be made on forms provided by the board office~~ A maximum 50 percent of the total continuing education credits required pursuant to subrule 2.12(4) may be obtained through completion of non-ACPE provider programs if such programs are provided by an accredited health-professional continuing education provider, such as a continuing medical education (CME) provider, and if the program content directly relates to the pharmacist’s professional practice.

b. Exemption for health-related graduate studies. A pharmacist who is continuing formal education in health-related graduate programs may be exempted from meeting the continuing education requirements during the period of such enrollment. An applicant for this exemption shall petition the

board, as soon as possible following enrollment in the qualifying graduate program, on forms provided by the board office. At the discretion of the board, exemption during part-time or short-term enrollment in a health-related graduate program may be prorated for the actual period of such enrollment.

ITEM 3. Amend paragraph **2.12(3)“a”** as follows:

a. An approved provider will be required to make available to an individual pharmacist a certificate that indicates successful completion of and participation in a continuing education program. The certificate will carry the following information:

- (1) Pharmacist’s full name.
- (2) Pharmacist’s license number.
- (3) Number of contact hours or CEUs awarded for program attended.
- (4) Date and place of continuing education program.
- (5) Name of program provider.
- (6) An indicator of the type or category of continuing education program completed.
- (7) Program title and program identification number.

ITEM 4. Amend subrule 2.12(4) as follows:

2.12(4) Continuing education program topics. Each pharmacist is required to obtain a minimum of 50 percent of the pharmacist’s required 3.0 CEUs in ACPE-approved courses dealing with drug therapy. Programs qualifying for the drug therapy course requirement will include the ACPE topic designator “01” or “02” in the last two digits of the program number.

ITEM 5. Amend subrule 2.12(7) as follows:

2.12(7) Reporting continuing education credits.

a. A pharmacist shall submit on or with the renewal application form documentation that the continuing education requirements have been met. Documentation shall be in a format that includes the following:

- (1) The total number of credits accumulated for the renewal period;
- (2) The individual programs attended, including program title and program identification number;
- (3) The dates of participation;
- (4) The credits awarded for each course;
- (5) The name of the provider of each course; and
- (6) Identification of the programs completed to comply with the drug therapy course requirements in subrule 2.12(4).

b. and c. No change.